

Ultimately, the American people are going to have to look at this reconciliation package—this bill called Build Back Better package—with its job-killing tax hikes, tax breaks to the wealthy, and stimulus spending and judge whether this is the right thing for the economy right now as we grapple with high inflation and struggle to get out of this pandemic.

It certainly is not the right thing. It is not in our national interest to be providing tax breaks to the wealthy and burdening our businesses and everyday taxpayers with higher taxes while stoking more inflation.

We are dealing with a host of economic challenges right now, from inflation to supply chain delays, to Omicron, to workforce shortages. As we seek to overcome these challenges, let's not build back worse.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOTICE OF A TIE VOTE UNDER S. RES. 27

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON BANKING HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, December 2, 2021.

To the Secretary of the Senate: PN1155 the nomination of James Arthur Jemison II, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, having been referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee with a quorum present, has vote on the nomination as follows—

1. On the question of reporting the nomination favorably with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed 12 ayes to 12 noes; and

In accordance with Section 3 paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote and ask that this notice be printed in the RECORD pursuant to the Resolution.

TRIBUTE TO ANN "ANDI" MATHIS

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I stand today to extend my heartiest congratulations to Ann Mathis—"Andi"—as she prepares to retire from

the National Endowment for the Arts—NEA—after 42 years of dedicated service.

A resident of Bethesda, MD, Andi has served as the NEA's program specialist for States and regions, using her expertise in arts management and best practices in grantmaking to support the work of 50 State arts agencies, six regional arts organizations, and six U.S. Territories.

Andi first joined the NEA after graduating from Cornell University and then earning a master's degree in community arts management from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Andi began her career in the NEA's Grants Office and Office of Management Analysis before settling into her role with States and regions in the Partnership Division.

During her distinguished tenure, Andi has nurtured partnerships with State arts agencies and regional arts organizations, building a network that has extended the reach of Federal support for the arts. As a guiding force in the NEA's Partnership Division and a font of institutional knowledge, Andi's expertise, dedication, and sense of humor have made her a beloved icon in national arts funding. Often, State and local officials would line up, literally, to obtain Andi's guidance and insight.

Andi's efforts have included extensive work with both the Maryland Arts Council and Maryland's Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation. She was also instrumental in centering the role of arts and culture in Federal disaster relief and recovery efforts, representing the NEA on disaster preparedness task forces and Federal Government working groups. Her outstanding work at the NEA has earned her numerous Distinguished Service Awards and other commendations over the years.

Andi's greatest pleasure has always been her beautiful family. While at the NEA, she married, had two daughters, Allison and Melinda, and now delights in her daughters' growing families, which enabled Andi to become "Grandi." A devoted mother and grandmother, Andi is renowned for her sewing prowess and her own line of "Grandi" children's clothing.

After more than four decades in the Federal Government, Andi plans to continue her legacy of service in retirement, working in the area of adult literacy, which will include tutoring through the Literacy Council of Montgomery County. We know that she will take seriously the Jewish tradition of tikkun olam, repairing the world, as she continues to make a difference in the lives of others.

I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our gratitude to Andi Mathis for her outstanding service to our Nation and in sending our best wishes to her as she begins her next adventure.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SEAN McDONNELL

● Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Coach Sean McDonnell, who recently announced his retirement after leading the University of New Hampshire football team for the past 23 years. I am deeply grateful for his leadership on and off the field and the impact that he has made on countless students.

Coach McDonnell has been a staple of UNH football for decades. After playing defensive back for the Wildcats from 1975 to 1978, he later returned to serve as an assistant coach, before taking over as head coach in 1999.

Under his leadership, the Wildcats saw much success. The team made 14 consecutive appearances in the NCAA's Football Championship Subdivision—FCS—playoffs and reached the semifinals in 2013 and 2014. As a result of his hard work, Coach McDonnell was named a two-time national coach of the year in the FCS.

But his reach goes far beyond the scoreboard. Known as Coach Mac, he served as a mentor and role model for countless young people. Above all, he was deeply proud of how those students and players represented the University of New Hampshire and our entire State.

Coach Sean McDonnell has left a lasting legacy in the Granite State. I thank him for all of his hard work and wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

● Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the city of Royal Oak, MI. Situated in Oakland County, Royal Oak is a city endowed with natural beauty and rich traditions, built on a strong agricultural base and populated with dedicated citizens and entrepreneurs.

The vibrant history of Royal Oak began in 1819, when it was explored by Michigan Governor Lewis Cass as part of his survey of the land that now comprises Oakland County. In contrast to the surrounding marshes, Royal Oak sat on lush, high ground. Near the intersection of the modern Crooks and Rochester Roads, Cass and his companions found an imposing oak tree that brought to mind the tale of England's King Charles II, who was said to have taken refuge under a grand oak tree from enemy forces. For this reason, Cass and his fellow explorers christened the tree the "Royal Oak," and the city received its name.

Early settlers in the area were principally farmers focused on clearing the land in order to build homes and plant crops. The introduction of the railroad into Metro Detroit and Michigan's Bay area soon brought with it an increase